



Cone Penetration Test Data & Interpretation

Soil behavior type and stratigraphic interpretation is based on relationships between cone bearing (q_c), sleeve friction (f_s), and pore water pressure (u_2). The friction ratio (R_f) is a calculated parameter defined by $100f_s/q_c$ and is used to infer soil behavior type. Generally:

Cohesive soils (clays)

- High friction ratio (R_f) due to small cone bearing (q_c)
- Generate large excess pore water pressures (u_2)

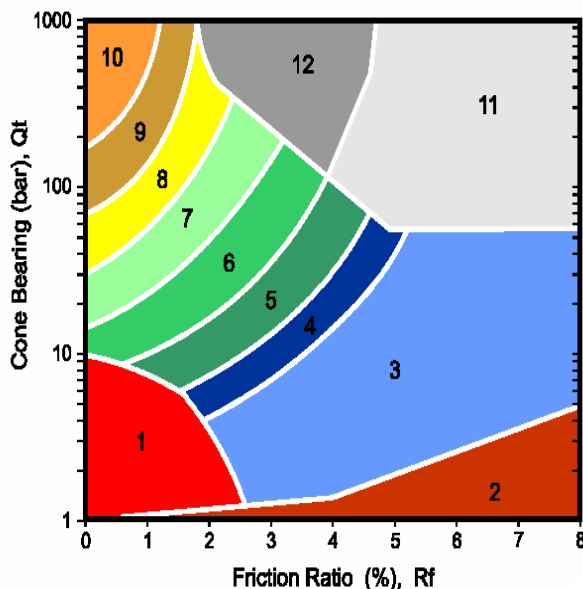
Cohesionless soils (sands)

- Low friction ratio (R_f) due to large cone bearing (q_c)
- Generate very little excess pore water pressures (u_2)

A complete set of baseline readings are taken prior to and at the completion of each sounding to determine temperature shifts and any zero load offsets. Corrections for temperature shifts and zero load offsets can be extremely important, especially when the recorded loads are relatively small. In sandy soils, however, these corrections are generally negligible.

The cone penetration test data collected from your site is presented in graphical form in Appendix CPT. The data includes CPT logs of measured soil parameters, computer calculations of interpreted soil behavior types (SBT), and additional geotechnical parameters. A summary of locations and depths is available in Table 1. Note that all penetration depths referenced in the data are with respect to the existing ground surface.

Soil interpretation for this project was conducted using recent correlations developed by Robertson et al, 1990, *Figure SBT*. Note that it is not always possible to clearly identify a soil type based solely on q_c , f_s , and u_2 . In these situations, experience, judgment, and an assessment of the pore pressure dissipation data should be used to infer the soil behavior type.



ZONE	Qt/N	SBT
1	2	Sensitive, fine grained
2	1	Organic materials
3	1	Clay
4	1.5	Silty clay to clay
5	2	Clayey silt to silty clay
6	2.5	Sandy silt to clayey silt
7	3	Silty sand to sandy silt
8	4	Sand to silty sand
9	5	Sand
10	6	Gravely sand to sand
11	1	Very stiff fine grained*
12	2	Sand to clayey sand*

*over consolidated or cemented

Figure SBT